

time he has thus treated more than one hundred cases and has obtained numerous articles upon the same subject written by physicians in various parts of the world. It seems possible, however, that some may have escaped notice. He also realizes that many of the profession may have treated some cases without reporting them. A paper upon the subject is now in the course of preparation. In this it is earnestly desired to incorporate reports from a large number of cases, good, bad and otherwise. He accordingly makes the following request to the readers of this Journal:

Will any one who has used vaccines in the treatment of typhoid fever, whether but one case or more, kindly communicate to him that fact, accompanied by name and address of the reporter? If the results have already been reported, a note of the Journal in which they appear will be sufficient. If they have not been reported, a short blank form will be sent to the physician to be filled out. Due credit will be given in the article to each person making a report. If any physician happens to know of other confreres who have any such cases, it will be appreciated if he sends their names, as they may not happen to read this note. It is hoped that by this means a sufficient number of cases may be collected to somewhat definitely settle the now mooted question whether vaccines are or are not of benefit in typhoid therapy.

Reports of cases will be accepted at any time in the future, but preferably by November or December of the present year.

Kindly communicate with Dr. W. H. Watters, Director of the Department of Pathology and Bacteriology, Evans Institute for Clinical Research, Boston, Mass.

#### PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE.

The long desired change has come and by an act of Congress approved August 14th, the name of the old Public Health and Marine Hospital Service is abolished and a new and proper name given: the United States Public Health Service. The powers and duties of the Service are increased and broadened (though not as much as they should have been) and there is an increase in pay—though that, too, is not so great as it should be. It will be pleasant news when both duties and pay are again increased, as they certainly will have to be, some day.

#### RELATING TO HEALTH SUPERVISION OF SCHOOL CHILDREN.

The State Board of Health and the Department of Public Instruction of Minnesota wish to lend their aid to the schools of the state in promoting health supervision of school children. To this end, the State Board of Health has engaged the services of Dr. Ernest B. Hoag, formerly of the University of California, to help Minnesota towns and cities to organize health work in schools.

Dr. Hoag will travel about the state, spending from one day to two weeks, as may be required, in the various places needing his services.

It is proposed to demonstrate to towns, cities and counties that rational conservation of the mental and physical health of our school children is possible and practical with the means already at hand. Three plans will be proposed:

1. Organization with a medical officer and nurse or nurses.
2. Organization with school nurse or nurses only.
3. Organization by the employment of a simple non-medical health survey on the part of the teachers only. Such a survey is provided by a series of questions based upon ordinary observation of physical and mental conditions. The out-

line for this purpose will be furnished by the State Board of Health—one for each child. No community need wait for the employment of a medical officer in order to begin sensible health observation of school children.

Dr. Hoag will be available for lectures on Child Hygiene, Medical Supervision, and related topics, for clubs, institutes, and various other organizations. The State Board of Health will maintain in its office in the capitol building, St. Paul, a clearing house of information concerning child hygiene, medical supervision, the teaching of school hygiene, sex hygiene, and the like. Please make full use of the opportunities furnished in this new work. Your co-operation is earnestly desired.

For further information address Dr. H. M. Bracken, Secretary State Board of Health, St. Paul, or Mr. C. G. Schulz, Superintendent of Public Instruction, St. Paul.

#### REFLECTIONS OF A PLAIN BUSINESS MAN.

This morning's mail is on my desk and it interests me as a business man and a tax-payer. First, I find a receipt for the last installment of my state and county taxes; a certain part of this goes, I am sure, to the support of the Government; proper, of course; we must have the support of the ordinary tax-payer to keep up the machinery of the whole.

Another item in the mail is a bill for gasoline furnished last month for my machine. Now I regret to say that my auto has become a business necessity, it is no longer a luxury. Business time and tide wait for no man, and the hurrying wave of business has forced me to use an auto; the good old horse will no longer accomplish my purpose, therefore he has been sold and his "proceeds" and a good deal more purchased the machine.

The price of living for the Government seems to be going up, too, as I find the tax receipt a little larger each year in spite of the fine-sounding promises of our honest politicians. Also I notice the price of gasoline has gone up 5 cents a gallon compared with last month's price, due, I suppose, to the earnest desire of our friend John D. to endow some institution a little harder than he did before; but I pay whether I feel "endowable" or not; it's a case of J. D. getting the credit for my unwilling nickel.

The next item of interest in my mail comes legally without a stamp, but with a Government frank; it is a long religious article gotten up in the United States Senate by Senator Works of California. I read it and discover that Senator Works is very much afraid that the Government will put a barbed-wire fence around somebody's "medical freedom" and that they would not be allowed to live and die by any route, medical or religious, that they chose. Now I have had an idea, which must be erroneous, that one of the fundamental principles of the constitution of these United States was that anybody and everybody should serve God as he pleased; I had an idea that this was the "big" reason why people sailed over the ocean several hundred years ago and from that time religious belief has been safe-guarded by the constitution, and as for medical freedom, it looks mighty free to me when he can take his choice of "Christian Science," Osteopathy, Mental Healing, New Thought, Chinese Bugs, Clairvoyance, Divine Healing, or none at all.

As I read further, I find the Senator afraid of a Public Health Bureau, because it might be run by trained experts in public hygiene. If anything goes wrong with our forests, trained experts are sent to investigate the trouble and eradicate it, the same with sick orchards. If hog cholera breaks out, do you, Mr. Senator, think it wrong or interfering

with anybody's liberty to send experts to put a speedy stop to it, and as quickly as quarantine and other effective measures will do it? But when it comes to the children and the poor of our country, "hands off" or somebody's religious or medical liberty will be shackled! Isn't the Senator willing that the people of this great country should have the same expert care that the trees and cattle have? Trees and cattle belong to his God, too, but they also die of disease and pestilence.

Would it not look ridiculous in the face of our great religious liberty for some Senator who was an ardent Catholic, Methodist, Presbyterian, Theosophist or non-believer to take hours of the time of the Senate of the United States elaborating his religious belief? Would the Senate tolerate it? Would any other Senator try it unless he wished to be laughed at? It would be interesting to know what an hour's talk on a necessary subject costs the taxpayers of this country. With the well-paid Senators listening to a religious tirade hours long it must be a very expensive luxury and for a business man and taxpayer to read the Congressional record of unnecessary noise it is to laugh and "cuss."

But back of all this I am interested as a taxpayer in the conservation of the public health because it is money in my pocket not to have epidemics or plagues or quarantined states; therefore aside from anybody's religious belief I want a Bureau of Public Health for economic reasons if for no other, and Jno. D. Works can put his wife at the head of it for aught I care if she will serve faithfully and conserve the public weal. He seems to feel quite sure that some certain sect in medical practice will be at the head of such a bureau. I am not afraid of that and think his fear an error, for if that head, whoever he may be, is not effective, we, the plain people and taxpayers, will see that some good executive gets the job. A non-effective head of a Public Health Bureau would soon be let out by the clamor of public sentiment.

Now, Mr. Senator, why has the price of gasoline gone up? Maybe you are not on the right committee to answer that, but as a public servant, as the servant of every taxpayer I ask you what are you doing to make good laws and taxes less? Don't talk maudlin sentiment by the hour; talk to my pocket-book; that's what you are there for. Somewhere in the good book it says "Faith without works is dead;" we don't pay you a salary to exploit religious beliefs or revive dead beliefs of Aristotle or Pliny or anybody else; if you want to do that hire a church; we want results and if you don't want to give them to us for your present salary, come home and let the other fellow try it; you are paid by the common people to serve our interests.

Any political economist will tell you disease and sickness cost the state an unnecessary sum every year; unnecessary because preventable. This would be the function of a Public Health Bureau. If you do not recognize disease and prevention, then give some one a chance who does.

What is your objection, religious or medical, either one is immaterial and altogether personal with you, hence of no interest to a taxpaying public? We respectfully ask you to support a bill for the establishment of a Public Health Bureau, believing it for the best interests of taxpayers generally, who have given the matter any thought.

Church and state never have gone well in double harness. We ask you to divorce your personal religious views from your statesmanship in the interests of your constituents.

And now, Mr. Works, why are you fighting a plan for the protection of public health which means life and health saved to the state and nation? Play ball, Mr. Works, do something for the good of your constituents as a majority of them see it or get out of the game. This from

A TAXPAYER.

## ENCOURAGING APPROVAL.

I wonder that it has never occurred to some of the money-mad people in this town that they really owe a world of gratitude to Health Commissioner Powers and his assistants. Now, that the scourge of infantile paralysis appears on the wane, many are rushing in to say that the scare was unfounded, never thinking that the passing of the disease may be due only to the efforts of the health department. Cannot these short-sighted persons see that people from other localities, where the fighting of quarantine is never dreamed of, will come more quickly when they see proper efforts being made to control disease? Could these misguided persons realize for a moment how their actions are regarded by people in other localities, they would be moved through principles of policy which alone seem to move them, to encourage and assist, rather than malign and retard the health officers.

Now that certain persons among us have advertised to the world that Los Angeles invites people only for their money, to seek to do away with sanitary measures which would protect their children, will not these persons indorse the taking-down from the churches the Bible and Crucifix and putting up the dollar sign, erasing the stars and stripes from the flags and imprint a likeness of a twenty-dollar gold note? The demons of hell respect little children; they allow them to remain sinless while children. But some in this city, which aspire to the height of glory in our civilization, rather than risk the loss of a few dollars, would risk seeing little children suffer and die or remain paralyzed throughout life.

If anyone in this city thinks that fighting the control of infantile paralysis and rabies is going to advertise Los Angeles favorably to the world, they would better begin, with the little children they sin against, and learn the lessons of life over.—C. R. Naff, in Los Angeles Times.

## NEW MEMBERS.

Smith, Flora W., Kingsbury, Cal.  
 Smith, T. D., Kingsbury, Cal.  
 Savage, W. W., Fresno, Cal.  
 Yates, W. C., Coalinga, Cal.  
 Mathewson, C., Fresno, Cal.  
 Bullard, Chas. T., Hume, Cal.  
 Jones, O. W., San Anselmo, Cal.  
 Owen, Gilbert R., San Bernardino, Cal.  
 Reily, Jno. A., Patton, Cal.  
 Bly, F. H., Red Bluff, Cal.  
 Yost, Jno. Dixon, Sacramento, Cal.  
 Davenport, A. K., San Francisco.  
 Herrington, E. L., San Francisco.  
 Legris, J. H., San Francisco.  
 Boyd, W. T., Riverdale, Cal.  
 Hare, John D., Reedley, Cal.  
 Hutchison, C. W., Coalinga, Cal.

## RESIGNED.

Adams, Wm. L., Fresno, Cal.  
 Hanson, G. F., San Francisco.

## DEATHS.

Greenleaf, Edw. F., Santa Ana.  
 Rich, Geo. D., Imperial, Cal. (Died in Petaluma, Cal.)  
 Mansur, L. C., Santa Ana, Cal.  
 Thiele, Emil, San Francisco.  
 Coe, Geo. Delos, address unknown.  
 Weed, Frances T., Los Angeles.  
 Davison, Wm. Armstrong, Bridgeport (Mono Co.), Cal.  
 Buckel, C. A., Oakland, Cal.  
 Alford, B. M., Tulare, Cal. (Died in Alameda.)  
 Coxhead, T. C., Oakland, Cal.  
 Chaffee, J. D., Long Beach.